

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 413

By Haston

A RESOLUTION to honor Joe Mack Hampton and Eric Hampton.

WHEREAS, we are most pleased to recognize a father and son duo who have amassed between the two of them more than 100 years of basketball excellence, earning the universal respect and admiration of their peers and a grateful public in the process; and

WHEREAS, Joe Mack Hampton and his son, Eric Hampton, are basketball legends in Scotts Hill and for good reason; and

WHEREAS, Joe Mack Hampton began his illustrious hoops career in 1959, with the Scotts Hill Elementary School basketball team and was then a four-year starter for the Scotts Hill High School team from 1961-1965; and

WHEREAS, Joe Mack Hampton was truly a great basketball player for Scotts Hill; his career highlights include posting 33 points and 36 rebounds in a single game, ranking among the top-ten all-time scorers in school history with over 1,200 points and as one of its all-time top rebounders, and being named All-State Honorable Mention in 1965; and

WHEREAS, one of the few players from Scotts Hill to play basketball at the collegiate level, Mr. Hampton played for Freed-Hardeman University from 1965-1967 and was a member of the 1967 team that posted an outstanding 27-3 record and missed qualifying for the Junior College Final Four by just one game; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of his collegiate career, Joe Mack Hampton began an exemplary forty-year tenure as an educator and coach at Scotts Hill in 1970, at one time serving as the head coach of both the boys' and girls' basketball teams at both the high school and elementary levels of competition; and

WHEREAS, Coach Hampton won district titles with both the girls' and boys' basketball teams in 1985 and led the Scott Hill boys' squad to the best finish in school history in 1985, when the team advanced to the substate; and

WHEREAS, at the end of his career, Joe Mack Hampton served as an assistant football coach for three seasons before taking a much-deserved retirement in 2012; and

WHEREAS, a gifted teacher and coach, Mr. Hampton proved himself to be an even better role model in ways that statistics cannot measure; a gentleman of integrity and impeccable character, he positively influenced many lives during his forty years at the helm; and

WHEREAS, following in his father's legendary footsteps, Eric Hampton also began his hoops career at Scotts Hill Elementary School, where he was instrumental in the team winning the county championship and finishing as James C. Haile Tournament runners-up in both 1989-1990 and 1990-1991; and

WHEREAS, a four-year starter at Scotts Hill High School from 1991-1995, Eric Hampton, again like his father, was truly a great basketball player for Scotts Hill; his career highlights include ranking among the top-three all-time scorers in school history with over 1,500 points and being named All-District in 1993, 1994, and 1995 and All-Region, All-State Honorable Mention, and West Tennessee Male Scholar Athlete of the Year in 1995; and

WHEREAS, one of the few players from Scotts Hill to play basketball at the collegiate level, Eric Hampton played for Jackson State from 1995-1997 and was a starter on the 1997 team that posted a 20-8 record while ranking second in the nation in scoring with an average of 102.5 points per game; and

WHEREAS, he then played for Bethel College from 1998-2000 and was a member of the 2000 KMAC Conference Championship team; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of his collegiate career, Eric Hampton embarked upon his own coaching career in 2001; between 2001-2013, he coached at all levels of both boys' and

girls' basketball, mentoring four consecutive Ms. Basketball recipients (two at Bradford and two at Perry County), received three Coach of the Year awards, and led his teams to multiple conference and tournament championships; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, he returned home to Scotts Hill, where he coached the boys' basketball team from 2013-2016, winning the county championship in 2016; and

WHEREAS, since 2014, Coach Hampton has joined his father among the upper echelon of basketball coaches by leading the Scotts Hill girls' team to five county championships and the ultimate prize of two State championships; and

WHEREAS, Joe Mack Hampton and Eric Hampton are truly among the greatest basketball players and coaches the Volunteer State has ever produced, and they are richly deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Joe Mack Hampton and Eric Hampton for their myriad achievements at all levels of basketball and extend to father and son our best wishes for much continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.